The U.S. Secretary of War has decided that under the tax law, railroad companies have a right to add three per cent. to their charges for trausportation of passengers, under their agreement with the War Department, thus increasing the rate from 2 cents to 2 6-100 cents per mile. Quartermaster General Meigs has issued a circular embodying this decision, and directing that all accounts for the transportation of troops since September 1, shall be settled accordingly.

The Wheeling Intelligencer supports the projet of admitting the proposed new State of West Virginia, on the basis of emancipation, and there seems to be a large party all over that region in favor of it. This question will come up for final decision at the session of Congress this winter, having gone over with the mass of unfinished business from last session. There are but few slaves remaining within its limits. It is said in the Northern papers that the occupation of Lousianna will soon be so extensive, that a largely increased Federal force will

The price of rags having increased, housekeepers can make something by saving them.

be necessary there.

The returned Tennesseeans were serenaded by a large crowd at Nashville, and speeches were made by Messrs. Brownlow and Maynard. The latter declared that the people would maintain the U.S. government at all hazards, and that the Confederates must submit unconditionally.

Dr. Moran, the late surgeon to examine parties in Frederick county, Md., subject to the draft, who was recently arrested on a charge of malfeasance in office, has been tried at Washington and honorably acquitted.

The Federal pickets near Suffolk, Virginia, were driven in by the Confederates on Wednesday. Subsequently a Federal force was retire beyond the Blackwater.

A dispatch states that General Jackson is at Winchester, with his troops in front of the town. A regiment of Confederate cavalry is at Martinsburg.

The Savannah Republican of the 13th says that on Sunday last the Federals attempted to land at St. Mary's, Ga., but were repulsed .-The gunboats then shelled and completely destroyed the town.

Lord Brougham, in his usual annual letter to Lird Radnor, expresses a strong hope that the Federal Government will abstain from exciting a servile insurrection, "the only aggravation whereof the deplorable contest is capable."-"Such a calamity," he says, "is more to be dreaded by the friends of the negroes than by those of their masters, for the chief sufferings would be theirs." Lord Brougham looks anxionsly to the future when this war shall have ceased. "Armed men in hundred of thousands will remain inured to slaughter, incapable of subordination, impatient of peace; their own Government will be less secure than ever; and our colonies will have a bad neighbor."

The government authorities in Memphis are at variance with the civil. Judge Swayne's charge in relation to the courts meets with no favor from the military provost marshal, who gives notice that any attempt to execute State laws at variance with the orders of the President and military commanders will be construed as contempt of the authority of the United States.

Telegraphic News.

From Fairfax Court House.

[Correspondence of the Philadelphia Inquirer.] FAIRFAX C. H., Va., November 20, 1862.— The weather is extremely unpleasant. For the past forty eight hours it has been raining

incessantly. The roads are very muddy, and almost impassable.

A new regiment arrived last evening for General Sigel's command. It was the Eightysecond Illinois, Col. Hecker. The Colonel is a very prominent personage with the Germans, he having taken an active part in the revolution

vice he commanded a regiment.

The staff of General Siegel has been just reorganized.

at Baden in 1849. In the three months ser-

Reliable information, which came in here yesterday, makes it appear that the Confederates have nine thousand men at Snicker's Gap, and a corresponding number at Ashby's Gap. These are the nearest points to us where the Confederates are in force.

The Provost Marshal-General of this corps is Col. J. S. Robinson, of the Eighty-second Ohio.

Seldom a day passes but some unfortunate sutler who endeavors to evade the law by smuggling whiskey into the lines, has his whole stock confiscated, not only the spiritous liquors, put every species of goods.

Horses, the property of the Un ted States, and which have been wrongfully appropriated by sutlers and others, are daily taken from those who have them in use.

Yesterday eight well conditioned animals were taken.

The guard went outduring the morning, and at a house about three miles from here they sent out which compelled the Confederates to captured a barrel of powder. It contained a hundred pounds of powder, done up in ten pound cartridges.

From Fairfax Court House.

[Dispatch to the Washington Chronicle.]

FAIRFAX C. H., Friday, Nov. 21.—The rain still continues and the roads are getting quite bad. The Confederates, however, still hang about the Federal flanks. Stuart was at Warrenton last night with a respectable crowd, and pushed his pickets out on the Manassas Junction road and the Warrenton "pike."-The were driven back by the cavalry under Lieut. Keenig. Jackson is said to be to the west with a considerable force.

We have positive information that Stuart's headquarters are at Warrenton, and that White is at Leesburg. White has but 500 men, but Stuart has artillery and cavalry.

THE BURNSIDE ARMY.—The heavy rains we are having here bave extended to Virginia, and will necessarily impede army movements there. The accounts we print to-day, moreover, show that there is to be no immediate forward movement from Fredericksburg for several days,-that is, not until the bridges over the Rappahannock are re-constructed, so as to keep our lines of communication with the Potomac all right. There are outgivings, too, that a co-operating force will soon be at werk on the Peninsula, and these, we are inlined to to think, are correct. Until that force is ready, Burnsido, it is probable, does not contemplate extending his lines much beyoud their present position. -N. Y. Express.

From Gen. Sigel's Army.

[From the Philadelphia Inquirer.] GEN. SIGEL'S HEADQUARTERS. Fairfax Court House, Nov. 20.

We reached here last night, having come quietly to this point. Our lines have been drawn up to Bull's Run, which is now our outpost. Scouts going to and fro from this point are met by Confederate pickets.

Everything has been conducted in the most orderly manner by the troops at Thoroughfare Gap; but when the order came to fall back, a momentary panic ensued among the soldiers, they not knowing the object of the movement, and fearing that we were being outflanked by the Confederates. A Wisconsin and a New York regiment, in the excitement of the moment, threw away a large number of arms and provisions.

The Confederates appeared with some cavalry and infantry upon our front immediately after the evacuation of Warrenton, and followed up our pickets with an energy and daring truly anazing, unless it be conceded they had a large force in our rear, which no one supposed for a moment.- A major and eight privates have been taken by the Confederates within the last two days. We have also lost twelve or fifteen of our pickets from the same cause.

Mr. W. H. Trenwith, commission merchant of Philadelphia, who shipped part of the cargo of the ship Tonawanda (captured, but sulsequently released by the Alabama), a British subject, appealed to the diplomatic representative of his nation, and suggested that the British Ambassador should apply to the Executive of the Southern Confederacy to remit the ransom, as far as British subjects are concerned, so that their property, in the cargo of the Tonawanda, should not be chargeable with any portion of the ransom. The reply from the embassy declines complying with either requests: First, on the ground that it could not, in any way, treat or communicate with the Confederate States, which had not been recognized by Queen Victoria; and, secondly, that the Ambassador's protest could not be supplied, there being no authority to issue it.

MARRIED.

In Washington, on the 20th instant, ZERAH A. SMITH, of Rockville Centre, Queen's co., N. Y., to Miss SARAH C. DONALDSON, of Langley, Fairfax county, Va.

DIED.

This morning, at half-past six o'clock, THOS. S. JAMIESON, in the 37th year of his age.— His funeral will take place to-morrow (Sunday) afternoon, at 3 o'clock, from his late residence, on Pitt street, between Prince and Duke. which his friends and acquaintances are invited

On Saturday afternoon, 22nd inst., MARY ALICE, youngest daughter of H. L. Simpson, esq., aged seventeen years. The friends and acquaintainces of the family are invited to attend her funeral, from the residence of her father, No. 52 N. Royal street, on Monday afternoon, next.

Near Washington, on Thursday afternoon, the 20th inst., GEORGE BURNS, in the 39th year of his age.

In Boston, Mass., on the morning of the 19th, JOHN B. KIBBEY, son of Wm. B. Kibbey, in the 37th year of his age.

NOTICE.—On Tuesday, the 24th inst., at 10 o'clock, A. M., at the premises occupied by Mrs. Padgett, on the west side of Patrick street. between King and Prince streets, I will sell, at public auction, one fine Piano, and sundry articles of household and kitchen furniture, consisting of Bedsteads, Bureaus, Tables, Sideboard, Chairs, Washstand and Cooking Stove.

Terms—Cash.

J. R. GRAY, A. C. C. nov 22-2